



Washington State Board of Massage

Business Meeting Minutes March 11, 2022 | 9:00 a.m.

On Friday, March 11, 2022, the Board of Massage held a board meeting via Webinar. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.

Board Members

Heidi Williams, LMT, chair
Autumn Christina Straker, LMT, vice chair
Chimere Figaire-Correa, LMT
John Cassinerio, LMT

Staff Present

Megan Maxey, Program Manager
Renee Fullerton, Executive Director
Joan Simmons, Administrative Assistant
Davis Hylkema, Assistant Program Manager
Jake Miller, Assistant Attorney General
Stephanie Vaughn, Rules Manager
Anthony Partridge, Policy Analyst

Guests

Mark Allen
Marybeth Berney, LMT
Robbin Blake, LMT
Maryann Brathwaite, LMT
Tianne Curtiss, LMT
Stephanie Dickey, LMT
Laura Embleton
Deanne Falzone, LMT

Allison Hanelt, LMT
Ashley Hernandez
Ariel Hubbard, LMT
Hunter Irons
Karen James, LMT
Gail McGaffick, JD
Summer Meyer, LMT
Anne Nutwell

Julie Onofrio, LMT
Robert Sheridan, LMT
Susan Sherman, LMT
Yuki Strube, LMT
Diana Thompson, LMT
Ann Treischel, LMT
Todd Valentine, LMT

OPEN SESSION – 9:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The board meeting was called to order by Heidi Williams, LMT, chair, at 9:02 a.m.

1.1. Introductions and Meeting Ground Rules.

The board and staff introduced themselves. Ms. Williams read the Meeting Ground Rules.

1.2. Approval of the March 11, 2022 Agenda

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the March 11, 2022, business meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

1.3. Approval of the January 14, 2022, Business Meeting Minutes

MOTION: A motion was made to approve the January 14, 2022, business meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

2. SCHOOL PROGRAM REVIEWS

Reviewing Board Members (RBMs) presented the following school program requests for full board consideration:

- Elite CBS – hybrid
 - The RBMs recommended approval.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve Elite CBS – hybrid. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- Elite Massage School
 - The RBMs recommended approval.

MOTION: A motion was made to approve Elite Massage School. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- West by Northwest – 760 hybrid
 - The RBMs recommended deficiency.

MOTION: A motion was made to send a deficiency letter to West by Northwest – 760 hybrid. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- West by Northwest – 915 hybrid
 - The RBMs recommended deficiency.

MOTION: A motion was made to send a deficiency letter to West by Northwest – 915 hybrid. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- West by Northwest – 760 hybrid transfer
 - The RBMs recommended deficiency.

MOTION: A motion was made to send a deficiency letter to West by Northwest – 760 hybrid transfer. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- West by Northwest – 915 hybrid transfer
 - The RBMs recommended deficiency.

MOTION: A motion was made to send a deficiency letter to West by Northwest – 915 hybrid transfer. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public who indicated an interest in speaking were given the opportunity to provide comment to the board. No public comment was received.

4. BOARD MEMBER SCHOOL REVIEW PRESENTATION

Ms. Maxey and Mr. Hylkema provided a presentation on standardizing the program staff's and reviewing board member's school review process.

Ms. Maxey and Mr. Hylkema will update the school approval application packet to reflect the board's decisions on the school approval review process.

5. CONTINUING EDUCATION DURING COVID POLICY

5.1 Public Comment Period – Members of the public were given the opportunity to address the board on the CE during Covid Policy.

- Diana Thompson recommended the board extend the policy's expiration date six months.
- Laura Embleton recommended for the policy to be extended through the fall.
- Susan Sherman supports the extension for another six months.
- Gail McGaffick supports the extension for another six months.

5.2 Board members reviewed Policy Number BOM 20-01.5 – Continuing Education Requirements During the COVID-19 Response and decided to extend the policy's expiration date.

MOTION: A motion was made to extend the policy's expiration date to December 31, 2022, with review in the fall. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

6. 2022 MEETING DATES

Program staff discussed with the board amending the 2022 meeting dates.

MOTION: A motion was made to amend the meeting dates as follows:

- May 6, 2022 was changed to May 20, 2022
- July 8, 2022 was changed to July 29, 2022
- September 9, 2022 was changed to September 23, 2022

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7. PROGRAM REPORT

7.1. Budget.

Ms. Fullerton shared the budget status as of January 2022. Following the implementation of the fee increase in the fall of 2019 the fiscal position of the board continues to improve and are on track to have a positive fiscal position in another few years. The largest percentage of the budget continues to be disciplinary costs.

7.2. Rulemaking Update.

- Ms. Maxey shared the CR-101 documents to begin discussing the transfer rules have been submitted for agency review. A rules workshop will be held at the May meeting.
- Ms. Maxey shared technical clean-ups will be submitted for division review and are on track to hold the rules hearing for the May meeting.
- The first draft rule language for the Health Equity Continuing Education Programs for Health Care Professionals was distributed on March 1 and there was a rules workshop on March 7. A new working draft is planned for distribution on Monday as well. The next workshop will occur on March 21, 2022.

7.3. Legislative Update.

- Ms. Fullerton discussed Senate Bill 5753. This was DOH requested legislation that included changes to many different boards and commission statutes.
- The changes to the Board of Massage were intended to help with recruitment challenges with the public member position, increase the board size to better represent different LMTs experiences and reclassify the board as class 5 with a \$250/day pay rate.
- It has been passed by the House and Senate and will be moving next to the Governor's office for signature.
- If signed, the impact on the board is:
 - Composition: 5 licensed massage therapists, 1 public member, 1 massage educator or school owner.
 - Terms: A partial term does not count as a full term.
 - Quorum: A majority of the board members appointed and serving constitutes quorum.
 - Reclassification: The board is designated as a class five group, increasing compensation to \$250 per day.

7.4. Future Agenda Items.

Ms. Maxey reported that she is working on the following items:

- Continue with the rulemaking documents.
- Update the application templates for schools requesting board approval.
- Update meeting dates.
- Update the Hands on CE policy.
- Begin recruitment for vacant positions which include one vacant public member, one vacant professional member, and one massage therapy educator member.

Mr. Cassinerio announced his retirement and that he will be stepping down from the board. Program staff recognized him for his service to the board and will begin recruitment to fill the position.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Heidi Williams, chair, at 11:41 a.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board attended to disciplinary matters in closed session.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:

Megan Maxey, Program Manager

Heidi Williams, LMT, Chair